

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a method of achieving a solid-liquid separation of an
5 oil-based mud comprising the step of contacting said oil-based mud with a water-in-
oil emulsion comprising a polymer derived from at least one water-soluble monomer,
where the polymer is not dissolved prior to contact with the oil-based mud, mixing the
water-in-oil emulsion and the oil-based mud and separating the solid phase from the
liquid phase in the oil-based mud. In addition, this invention also relates to a
10 composition comprising an oil-based mud with a water-in-oil emulsion comprising a
polymer derived from at least one water-soluble monomer, wherein the polymer is
not dissolved prior to contact with the oil-based mud.